GOOD TIMES

Vol. 17 #4

Vol. 17 #4 Paw Paw Middle School - Paw Paw, MI 49079 25¢

Jessica Wins National Recognition

Jessica Zirkle's impromptu writing and a sample of her best writing won her a certificate of merit from the National Council of Teachers of English.

The competition, designed to recognize and inspire young writers, is sponsored by NCTE for eighth graders in all fifty states, Canada, and American Abroad Schools. Only 18 were chosen from Michigan with 16 of those being from the Detroit suburban area schools.

441 were chosen nationally from thousands of entries.

Volleyball Ends

The last volleyball game of the season was played against Allegan on Thursday, March 28 wrapping a fun season for 7thand 8th graders.

Mrs. Lindsey Snow and Mrs. DeGRaaf were the coaches for the 8th and 7th graders.

The teams played not only at Allegan but also at Galesburg, Delton, Schoolcraft and a Galesburg Invitational.

D. Sheltrown and J. Winters

Flowers Everywhere

It is now spring and flowers are growing
Growing all over the place.
Flowers are gorwing
In our yard, in the school yard,
In the woods,
In the baseball field.

Matt Coash

I will miss this 8th grade class. Take Care
Bye Holly, Mrs Martin

The Applesauce Language ARts open took place March 8 at Lawrence.

Nine group of students from nine districts competed in games and got to know each other from all over tehe county.

The sixth graders who went from PawPAw were Linda Morrison, Ben Merrill, and Kim Abshagen. The seventh graders were Alicia Dacoba, Vicki Miller, Dave Clark, and MEghan Handy were the seventh graders

Jessica Zirkle, Kristi Boff and JEremey Roscoewere the eighth graders involved.

Solo/Ensemble Held

The solo and ensemble festival was held April 20th at Bango High Schol.

Many people came from many districts.

Many of PPMS students received 1's and 2's on theri performance.

Kathleen Bearden

Choir Sings in Chicago

The choir took a trip May 18th to GReat America. leaving at 5 a.m. and returning at 1 a.m. the next day.

Before going off to enjoy the amusement park, the choirs attended a competition called "Music in the PArks". This was held outside the actual amusement park.

Mrs. Helland directed the choirs in the competition.

Shanda Vloch

Dear Editor,

I would like to change the school lunch. I would ask students to write down some suggestions on how to improve the lunch and based on the resuls, I woul ttry to satisfy as many ofthem as possible.

Another aspect of school I'd like to see change is I.S.S. I don't think students learn anything from being secluded from class. I think instead of sending a student to ISS I would have them after school and try to talk out the problem. If it works fine and if it doesn'T I would just send them home to let their parents deal withthem because if they are not mature enough to be in a learning environment then they shouldn't be here. But the student does have the right to be listened,and that is important.

Sincerely,
BEcky Preston

Dear Editor,

The hot lunch in ourschool is the only food we get all day. Our poll says that 1% of all eighth graders like it. Last yrar the prices went up but the food is still the same quality and quantity. We don'T like the the fact that our school is lagging behind a lot of other middle schools in progress of food and technology. Millwood, Mattawan, Hillside and Bloomingdale have snack and salad bars. Some foods we'd like to have in our snack bar would include prewrapped sandwiches, chips, french fries, ice cream, pop, hot dogs, popcorn anad of course a variety of salad foods with more than four choices of things on our salads.

The cost of all this could be reimbursed from the profits of the food. The school could pruchase food in bulk and sell it at a 10% increae giving the school a profit greater than 10%. Including the whole sale to retail cost,this profit could easily pay back the food investment and still produce money for other things. The profits at this salad /snack bar could be used thought out the school year. Our student body deserves a variety of foodds to stimulate inidividuality as well as decision making.

Colette, Kristy, Beth, Cliff,Stacy and Chris

Dear Editor,

The students need a pay phone. The main reason for needing a pay phone is the office only has three phones and four hundred and fifty people, including staff, who want to make calls. I woul be easier on the office if the outside had their own phon e. Right now students may use the phone only in an emergency.

To pay for the phone the students need to havea fund raiser. Some good fund raisers would be bake sales and selling candy bars. After the school gets the pay phone and students are using it, the phone would pretty much pay for itself. Other middle schools have a pay phone like MAttawan, Delton and PArchment. If they can afford a phone so can we.

Even if theschool has trouble paying for the phone student council has three thousand dollars to pay for the fees , money which was earned from dances.

Some people oppose the phone because of possible vandalism, prank callsand leaving class to go use the phone. We can be trusted to use the phone properly and maturely. The phone would be used to call home or friends after school. During lunch there coul be a hall monitor to be sure there were no prank calls. As for leaving classes

see p. 6

8th Grade Survey

A tradition in the Good Times is the eighth grade survey. It'S a time to summarize what has been their middle school experience.

"Who or what will you miss most about the middle school often nets the joking answer "nothing" but then the real answers begin.

Jennie Withers will miss "Mrs. Kalisiak, Mrs. Matson, Miss Boelman, Mr. Watterworth, Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Swanson because they are allpretty cool." Misty Wright will miss " Mr. Topp because wehave had some laughs and he is a good friend."

Amber Bisoukas will miss " the great teachers and the wonderful English assignments, especially Ms. Brown and Ms. Roberts andMr. Topp, also Mrs.Mahanty and Mrs. Kalisiak." Jeff Bartells will miss "Mrs. Shelton. She 's the nicest person I know." Bernard Varnesdeel will miss "Molly Markovich because she's the best."

Tabitha Traughber will miss " the nice school lunches that stick with you always." Kim Boven will miss "the lovely cafeteria,the fantastic food and the huge lockers." Kevin Arendt thinks he'll miss "the lunch food more than the teachers."

Becky Preston will miss " my teachers the most because some of them weremy friends too and it frightens me to even think about going to a new school and leaving everyone behind." Sarita Rickli will miss "Miss Boelman, the student teacher-now substitute-because she understood people and how they were better than any other teacher I know."

Frank Coulson will miss "Mr.Erickson who is cool and nice and Mr.Kannegieter because he is so big and fat."

Jerry McNett will miss Mrs. Swanson out of all the teachers. She's kind and her class is the easiest and the most challenging in one." Azure Russell will miss "Mrs. Dobbs."

Naomi Wray will miss "my friends in 7thgrade, especially BRandon Black and I'll miss all those terrible lunches." Ryan Rucinski will miss "Mr. ERickson and all his jokes." Tim Pluta will not miss " the school lunch or the bathrooms. I guess I'll miss the lunch time the most," says Tim.

Monaca HEaly will miss Mrs.Matson and Mrs. Kalisiak the most-they're the ones I had the most fun with." Holly Martin will also miss "Mrs. Matson."

Cliff Selent will miss "all the 7thgraders whoare my friends." Kelly Nelson will miss "Mr. Topp-his teasing and jokes always cheer me up." Bea Dickerson will miss " the wonderful lunches. They were just the best."

Tammy Tarver will miss " Mr.Snyder who made up my mind to work for science." Chris Griffin will miss "playing in our gym." Chuck Lhamon will miss "Mr.Snyder- he'sthe best biology teacher in the world."

Robert Moon will miss "Mr. Ruesink the best English and social studies teacher I've had." Trent DeGroff will miss "Mrs. Barrett, Mrs.Shelton and especially I will missMr. Zolp."Nate Pursley will miss being the oldest grade in the school but I can't wait to get to the high school."

P.J. Coffinger will miss "the partial socialism of this neat school. I will miss that we can't bring a skateboard to schooleven if we only ride it after school. I will miss the fact that you canget detentions for having a rubber band or riding a bike on school grounds. Oh, I do likesome of the teachers though."

Dawn Breed will miss "the secretaries because it's fun to work in there." Kris Kribs will miss "talking to Iit, Moldy, and Paddy everyday. Iill miss their friends and I like talking and teasing Iit." Robert Kracker will miss " going outside at lunch because I like to get a fresh break from school air." Someone named Mr. T will miss"Mrs. Swanson because she helped me the most and she was my favorite teacher." Ron Winters will miss "Mr. Edinger and his dumb jokes because after one dum, joke they all get dumber.. just joking. I will miss him because he taught so much and we learned so much. I'll also miss Mr. Snyder from whom Ilearned todissect and who is a great friend."

Erin Charlier will miss "Mrs. SWanson, Mr. Haupt and the cooks." Seth Parker will miss "making fun of Ms. Boelman...just joking."

ADVICE

What kind of advice will you give to the upcoming sixth,seventh and eighth graders?

Colette STevenson says," Keep your locker full... and don't always be in I.S.S. like some people." BRent Shaefer says," If you can, go to ST. Monica's." Kristi Boff,"Girls, bring an extra pair of nylons to the eighth grade annual. I got a huge run in mine."

Jennifer White says,"6th graders, don'T screw this year up because then the teachers wil always know about you and you can't ever get away with anything. 7th graders if you're inalgebra, study hard."

Emily Otiz warns," Be good and if you're in trouble , don'Tdeny it- face the consequences." Jason Bolinger says,"Don't fail and have fun." Tom Imus says,"Don't talk or ask stupid questions in Mrs. Dobbs' class."

Elaine Gillam warns,"Don't kick your lockers too hard- they jam easy.If you get one of the small skinny ones go on strike...just joking." Michael DeGraaf says,"Laugh at Mr. Edinger'S jokes." Dan Newman warns,"Don'T goof off or the teachers willsend you up a creek without a paddle."

Liz Williams says," have fun and bear with it although at times it's the pits." Jennifer Nufer warns 6th graders of a certain 7th grade teacher...and says " 7th graders, don't take drugs- just say no." Bree Herron's short advice is "Get a life."

Beth Vogel suggests, " Do your combination before class because the lockers are smooshed and we have no bells so might be late." Matt Dundon says, "Wear earplugs to Mr. Cassell's class because your ears will be tortured by his singing." Chance Barden warns"Stay off Mr.Erickson's bad side."

Andy Hansen warns,"Beware of Mr. Edinger's jokes," while Brandi Osborn says,"laugh always at Mr. Edinger's jokes. Don'T worry aboutimpressing others- just be your self." Jessy Heinzelman says," Watch your language and stay out of trouble .. or go to Hackett if youcan."

Naomi Wray says," Be your own person and don't just do whatever everyone else does. Also just say no to drugs." P.J. Coffinger says," avoid being bad in Mrs.Dobbs' class. Be a perfect, nice American little guy or girl."

LAST WILLS

The eighth graders leave behind the following items to various people as part of a Will they wrote.

Menah Satayut leaves " my good grades to Meghan Handy." Jessy Heinzelman leaves "my test and good grades to Jennie Withers and Kathleen Bearden."

More Wills

Brandi OSborn leaves " Tara Anderson my locker and all the seventh grade teachers, especially Mr. Snyder. I leave Katie Markovich, Mr. Edinger's jokes."

Liz Williams leaves the joys of 8th grade to Lori and Marie. I leave the bad lunches to my brother Louis alongwith the fun of two more years of middle school." JenniferWhite leaves Mrs. Dobbs "allmy algebra papers.To Alicia Dacoba and Jenny Abnet my algebra help; they are going to need it. To Mr.Topp you will never have to hear me complain again- you finally got your wish."

Lisa Marr leaves "the ever-so -spacious lockers to the 6th and 7th graders. It's amazing how many things you can try to cram in there. To DerickStevens I leave detentions waitingfor his name to be written on..." Mike Opalka leaves "to whom it may concern, all my undone homeworkon the bottom of my locker."

Gina Borello leaves " mysmall locker and my math grades to Val Holzworth even though Val won't want that. It's the only thing I have to giveaway because I'm taking everything else with me. Also, Katie Vogel can have my pictures of BRent Shafer to sell to Katie Rock." Jason Kniss would leave "my past record and grades to the dumpster but they won't let me." Monica VanBrussel leaves to Heather Bigelow " my locker for all the times it got busted." Ryan Herring leaves "all my wonderful good looks thata I like so much for everyone to share equally."

MaryLou Garcia leaves "to my sister Abby Mrs. Dobbs and Mr. Edinger. ToMeghan Handy, I leave my big locker that is all by itself."

Marrisha Varnesdeel leaves "my locker 357 to Kristi Vesey because it always gets jammed." Lindsey Thompson leaves " my locker to Katie Vogel cause hers is too close to the door." Jason Meyer leaves my favorite word "guy"and my awesome singingand rapping skills to Dave Clark because he needs them bad."

Mike Carr leaves his locker to "Kris McCorkle." Colette Stevenson leaves " my messy locker to Mr. Lutz and my intelligence (some of it) to the 6th graders-they need it." Erin Charlierleaves "my locker to Brad Charlier and I wish him to have Mr.Haupt, Mrs.Swanson,Mr. Erickson, Mr.Snyder and Mr. Edinger."

Ron Winters leaves "to mysister Jenny Mr. Edinger and his jokes and Ileave Mr. Edinger my sister and her antics. To Mr. Zolp and Mrs. Snmith I leave my brother Richard who will be in 6th grade next year. Lord have mercy on you two. Kathy TRuppa leaves " to Beth Bonelli my favorite teacher Mr. Edinger."

Bea Dickerson leaves "the spirit ofPaw PAw." Holly MArtin leaves "my mom here at school. In other words 'mom, stay here and don't go to the high school'."

Ryan Rucinski will leave " my dented locker with all the sentimental value." Azure Russell leaves"my locker 403 to Sarah Williams." Frank Coulson leaves "my books to Kris McCorkle and my locker to Joey Rayborn." Sarita Rickli leaves " to Jennifer Richmond-theJenster- lots of luck.Take charge. I know the Jenster can handle it." Misty WRight leaves "my locerk that won't open very well to my sister Mikki."

There was a farewell editorial that went along with this lauding some favorite teachers and saying adieu but apparently the authors were too choked up to finish the last few lines.

it would be inexcusable unless for an emergency like sickness or a schedule change at school.

Amber, Jennifer, Jeremy and others

Read Read

Reading is a lot of fun
Especially when out in the sun
One hundred pages-that's o.k.
1000 pages? Hey no way.

Heather Culton

6th Grade Views 6th Grade

As the year winds down the question asked of 6th graders was "How did you lke 6th grade now that you're used to the middle school?"

Jessica Shelttrown likes it because you can be free. Jessica Silbersays some teachers are good and then there are other ones...

Louis Williams says it's easy for him. MRS. MArtin says she likes it because it's a brand-new experience for kids. Nicci Pedersen felt "It's more than she expected." All David Alleman could say was "I didn't do it."

On the other hand Amber Maior loves it. Mr. Ruesink thinks some kdids like and some don't. Kristi Jack loves the dances.

Lorri Robbins says "It's cool." Seanna Sullivan, Cathy Kelly, Jessa Bogema, Sarah Plucinski and Jessica Hatfield think it's "ok."

Tara Pullen and Julie ERickson say "It'S fun." That what the 6th graders think of the 6th grade.

Angela Neumeier

EAT YOUR Cooky Crisp!

In a quick poll, Mrs. Kalisiak discovered that 53 percent of the 250 m.schoolers polled don't eat breakfast in the morning. Whew. No wonder lunch seems a long way off.

LONG DAYS

I'm in my chair
My heart is racing
My head is spinning
My throat is dry
There is dead silence
Except for the cutting voice.
It won'T stop.
There is no way out.
I'm trapped in this seat.
I'm confused
No one will help me.
I've been here for eternity.

A ringing sound breaks
The silence.
Thank God school's over.

Shea Sherrod

The Summer Good Times staff were the folowing: Jenny Winters, Vicki Miller, Valerie Holzworth, Lindsey Thompson, Dan Newman, Jason Kniss, Brennan Sang, Angela Neumeier, Erin Charlier, Brandi Osborn, David Morrison, Chris Laverack, Kathleen Bearden, Shanda Vloch, and Heather Bigelow.

In fall those interested in newspaper will be givena chance to apply to join the staff. We meet during IGS.

Cowboy Carl Signs Off

Hi folks. Thanks for reading my last story. My ratings are back up. Anyway, today'S story is about my history so listen up.

It all started back in Mrch, 1822. I was born on the sixteenth or was it the seventeenth? Anyway, I was born in Dustville, New Mexico. Back then mot of all the land was wild. Dustville was a small town with jsut a few houses. I was not actually born in Dustville so much as I was raised outside of it inthe vast wilderness. My parents were sucked up by a tornado when I was still young. I was raised by a family of small fish. By the time I was three I was huntin' everything in

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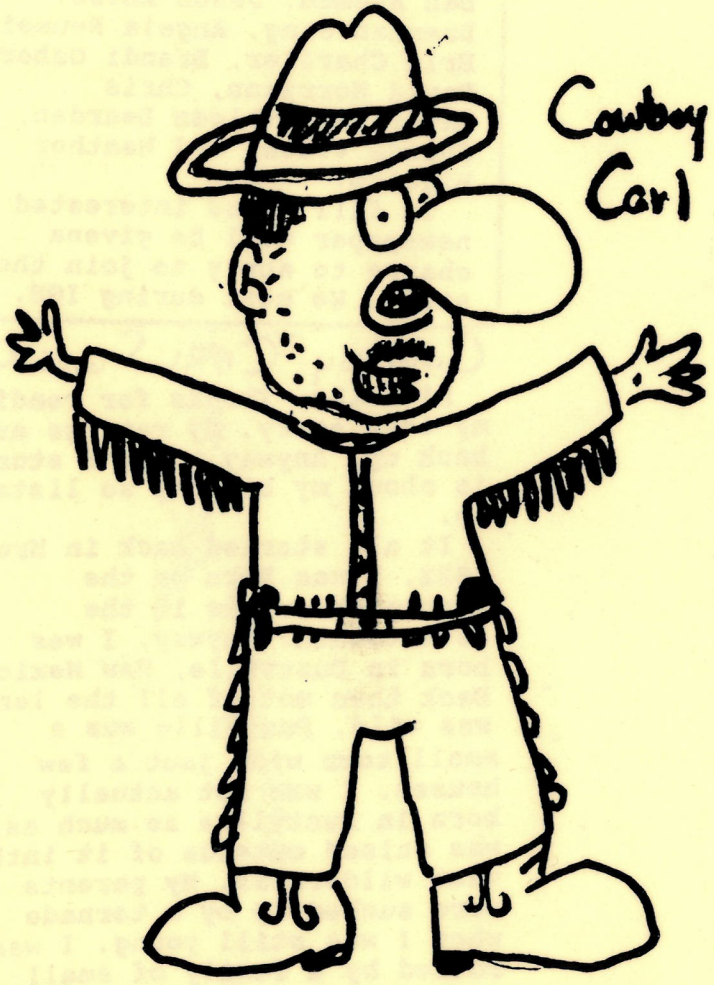
the woods. I remember when I killed the great grizzly bearwith my bear hands, but that's anotherstory.

When I was about ten, I built myself a cabin complete with a CD player, spa, bar, color tv (Wide screen ofcourse) and microwave.However, thinkin' back on it, the twenty car garage was abit much since cars hadn'T even been invented yet.

By the time I was twenty, I was a hero and sheriff of Coyote,a small ton not too far away from Dustville. The rest of my history I have aleady written stories about. See you next time.

by Brandon Miller



8th grade Trip

The 8th grade went to Chicago May 23 filling four buses and taking with them 37 chaperones.

The oceanarium at the Aquarium was opened in April and the group received a bargain rate to tour it-2.50 per student. The Field Museum , the other place the 8th grade visited ,was free as it always is on Thursdays.

Students enjoyed the whales, the porpoises, the ancient history displays and the McDonald's in the Museum's basement.

Many felt the trip was too short and that there was much yet to see and do.

by c. laverack et al.

8th grade Annual

The 8th grade annual held May 4th was a big success .

The dance,which lasted from 7:30-10:30 , had a color scheme of black and silver. Photos were taken by Stephanie Reed and many can be seen in the display case in the front hall.

Much credit for the dance's success goes to the excellent behavior of the 8th grade and to the tireless work of MRs. Zygadlo and her parent committee.

7th graders planning for attending the dance next year should remember that they don't need expensive clothes- just come looking good and remember to keep dancing.

L.T & M.V.

Oliver Opens June 7

The play is directed by Mrs. WArner. The stage crew includes Brandon Black, Tracy Johns, Jenny STipe, Jim Yarberry and Michelle House as director's assistant.

by jenny winters

see p. 9-10 for more details

J.A. in 7th Grade

This year a new program called Project Business-Junior Achievements has begun. AS an endin to the course Joan Burnham, Nan Smith and Mrs. Brown took the second and thid hour social studies classes to STryker Corp. , to WWMT tv and to WKZO radio May 7th.

by Jenny Winters

CLIQUES-WHY?

Angela Neumeier and Jennifer Winters took the school by storm asking the following questions. "What do you think abo wearing school uniforms?", "What do you think about the cliques?" and "Why do we have cliques?".

For the first question the response was 26 yes, 10 maybe and 276 no to uniforms."

On the second question there were som varied responses. From the sixth grade, Debbie Johnson says, "It's their opinions who they hang around." Tara Pullen says,"They're stupid (cliques)". Kenny HAdden felt,"(they're) dude."

The seventh graders like Ray Borden said,"I hate them " while Scott ERnstes said,"o.k." The eighth graders have different points of view. Brandi Osborn says,"I think it's goog that everybody is different but no when they are fightingall the time and making fun of each other" while BRent Shafer says they're "Stupid."

Our special guests have something to say. Yoko Ono says,"This is a democracy not a communism." On the other hand, Homey D. Clon said,"I like them. They're coolness."

On the last question there is a variety of answers. These include "Because some people have the same interests and like to share them with the ones they fit in with best, "stated Lisa Marr. Tater Winters has another point .He states "Some people should belong to something. They should try to fit in somewhere they think they should. I mean if you like sports, you should do sports etc. but just be yourself."

This is about cliques. There are different group that everyone "belongs" to. The first group is the NewKids fans.

These are girls who love the New Kids and wear their hats, shirts, pins etc. Then we have the "Jocks".They are a mixture between skaters and punks although this is not always the case. Then we have "preps" who are popular girls and guys who have to be neat and clean and have a fit if any dust gets on them.

But why, you ask, do we have these cliques? The answer is easy. It's not like Mrs. Shelton lines us up and says;"You're a prep, you're a jock, etc." The answer is look in the mirror-for at least the majority. You actually , believe it or not, divide yourself into cliques. You most of the time have a choice in what clothes you wear and how you do your hair and wear your make-up. So if everyone woul just learn to live with each other the way they are , maybe the kids coming to the middle school won't need to have an article like this in the newspaper on cliques.

by h. bigelow and v. holzworth

The choral concert May 9 included the seventh and eighth grade choirs doing many pop songs. Some favorites included "Ready for Saturday Night", "Wind Beneath My Wings", "Under the SEa" and "Somewhere Out There".

It was a special event- hope you didn't miss out.

by j.winters

Dear Sam,

I'm going wih this guy but now I want to break up with him. I want to go with one of his best friends. What should I do?

Trouble in Paw PAw

Dear T.i P.P.,

All I can suggest is tell your boyfriend that you don'T want to go with him and go wih his friend. Hope he takes it well. (P.S.- you might want to wait a week or two before going withthe bst friend...).

Dear Sam,

I really have a problem with this teacher. She always hounds me about stuff I didn't even do. Hardly anybody likes her in our grade. She gives out almost three detentions everyday. Well what shall I do? Help me please.

name witheld

Dear Name,

All I can say is "Hold on" . School's almost over for the year. Also ask yourself, is there anything I can do to keep from getting her attention at this point? Am I doing anything that is really annoying? You are not going to have a wonderful relationship with every teacher you have just as you don't have a wonderful relationship with every 6th grader in your classes. But you have to survive the class. So hang in there. It'll end soon.

Dear GGWL,

Confidential from Sam: You do know what is right and what is wrong. If you did not have some idea you wouldn't have written. We think your problem is out of our reach.Maybe you need to someone like Mrs. K or Mr. Pefley.

Yo Sammy

BAND PLAYS THROUGH MAY

The Paw PAw Band PRogram has been very busy making music toward the end of the year.

Events that have taken place in May include the May 4th Band-a-thon, the May 28th Middle School Concert, the Memorial Day parade and the May 31st graduation at Falan Field.

The bands,according to Mr. Haupt, have come along this year. "Next year," says he,"look fo more good things to come."

6th grade Activity Day

The sixth grade activity day will take place May29 under the supervision of Mr. Lutz and the other sixth grade teachers.

It will take half a day and be held at Tyler Field.

The events will be based on team work within the homerooms. Ribbons will be handed out to first , second and third places in events.

by d. morrison

A.C.T.- OLIVER

A.C.T., Area Children's Theatre, will put on the production Oliver June 7,8,9 and June 14, 15, and 16 in the middle school auditorium.

Oliver Twist is played by Ry Charters and Jonathan Hughes. Fagin is played by Jason Marks while Bill Sikes is played by Greg STraka. Nancy, also a thief, is played by Jenny Lee. Her partner in crime is Bet, played by Beth Warner.

Mr. Bumble is played by Danny Brooks, Mrs. Corney is Beth Vogel, Mr. Brownlow, Yalin Krause, Mr. Sowerberry, Tony Welburn, MRs. Sowerberry is played by Emily Miller and Charlotte Sowerberry is Lindsey Thompson and Lindsey Nufer.

Benji Merrill plays Noah Claypole, Andy Kuntzis Dr. Grimwig, Nikki Clapp is MRs.Bedwin, KAtie Vogel plays Old Sally, Josh LeMaster andAndy Krause share Charley Bates while Ginny Rushing plays Old Lady.